

Message Text

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64

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PPTE-00 SCA-01 CPR-01 /021 W

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R 121024Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1120

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

UNCLAS ACCRA 1102

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, EFIN, GH

SUBJ: FOREIGN EXCHANGE VOUCHERS AS VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR GHANA

REF: ACCRA 1050

1. WRITTEN RESPONSE FROM BANK OF GHANA TO EMBASSY'S QUESTIONS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW REGULATIONS CONTAINS FOLLOWING:

A. REGULATIONS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY. DOLS 50 VOUCHERS CAN BE OBTAINED AT GHANA ENTRY POINT FOR THOSE WHO ALREADY HAVE VISAS. GOG DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR OFFICES IN US, UK, AND GERMANY, AMONG OTHERS, REPORTEDLY ALREADY HAVE VOUCHERS. "DISTRIBUTION IS STILL UNCLASSIFIED

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GOING ON, AND IT IS HOPED TO BE COMPLETED SHORTLY. EMBASSIES IN

COUNTRIES FROM WHICH WE RECEIVED ONLY OFFICIAL/DIPLOMATIC VISITORS ARE NOT LIKELY TO BE SUPPLIED." KOTOKA (ACCRA) AIRPORT HAS VOUCHERS; "ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED TO DESPATCH SOME VOUCHERS TO TEMA AND TAKORADI HARBORS, AFLAO (AT LOME, TOGO BOARDER) AND OTHER GHANA POINTS OF ENTRY."

B. APPLICANTS FOR VISAS BY MAIL MUST ALSO PURCHASE VOUCHERS BY MAIL.

C. "OFFICIAL VISITORS WHO ARE HOLDERS OF DIPLOMATIC AND OFFICIAL PASSPORTS HAVE BEEN EXEMPTED... AND OUR DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR OFFICES HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED ACCORDINGLY."

D. "COMPANIES OPERATING IN GHANA, WHICH HAVE HAD REMITTANCES FROZEN, ARE NOT GOING TO BE GRANTED EXEMPTION. VISITORS OF SUCH COMPANIES WHO ARE NOT ORDINARILY RESIDENT IN GHANA WILL BE REQUIRED TO PURCHASE THE MINIMUM AMOUNT OF CEDI VOUCHERS. HOWEVER, IF THE COMPANIES REQUEST THAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO PAY THEIR VISITORS' HOTEL AND OTHER LOCAL EXPENSES FROM THEIR BLOCKED ACCOUNTS, WE SHALL BE PLEASED TO PERMIT THEM TO DO SO AND DEDUCT SUCH COSTS FROM THE BLOCKED ACCOUNTS."

2. POUCHING DEPARTMENT (AF/W) FULL TEXT OF LETTER AND REGULATIONS.

3. WE ARE NOTIFYING LOCAL U.S. COMPANIES OF PROVISIONS OF 1-D ABOVE.

4. COMMENT: IN VIEW OF FACT THAT NEW REGULATIONS SPRUNG WITHOUT WARNING, WE EXPECT CONSIDERABLE TEETHING PERIOD BEFORE ENFORCING OFFICIALS HAVE RULES AND PROCEDURES CLEAR.
BLACK

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